United States Environmental Protection Agency Washington, D.C. 20460 Solid Waste and Emergency Response (5105) EPA 500-F-01-283 April 2001 www.epa.gov/brownfields/

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EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Port of Bandon, OR

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely clean up brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, with additional funding provided for greenspace) to test assessment models and facilitate coordinated assessment and cleanup efforts at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels; and job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years) to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund program (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the Port of Bandon for a Brownfields Assessment Pilot. The Port of Bandon is part of the small rural community of Bandon (population 2,800) situated near the mouth of the Coquille River along Oregon's southwest coast. Due to a decline in the fishing and timber industries, many mills, fish processing plants, wharfs, and pilings were abandoned in Bandon. The deteriorating properties remain as visible eyesores and are a concern for the local community. The high unemployment rate in Coos County has never dropped below the statewide rate. The development potential of these sites could present employment opportunities for the local neighborhoods to help retain young and middle-aged families.

The Port of Bandon owns prime waterfront property critical to Bandon's tourism industry, which has become the community's primary economic focus. The Moore Mill Truck Shop at the marina entrance is nearing collapse. If this threat is not mitigated, the collapse could endanger the lives of boaters, and contaminants entering the water could disrupt marine and bird habitats. This would be a devastating blow to residents and visitors who rely on the Bandon area

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Port of Bandon, Oregon

Date of Announcement:

April 2001

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets two key sites in the small community of Bandon, which has suffered from the decline of the timber and fishing

industries.

Contacts:

Port of Bandon (541) 347-3206 Regional Brownfields Team U.S. EPA - Region 10 (206) 553-2709

Visit the EPA Region 10 Brownfields web site at: http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/webpage/ Brownfields?OpenDocument

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/ for fishing and recreational activities. The Prosper Yard, which is located further inland, operated as a shipyard and boat repair facility over the past 120 years. More recently, the property has been used for dredging, dock repair, construction, and pile driving activities.

OBJECTIVES

The Port of Brandon wants to identify and resolve environmental concerns associated with the Moore Mill Truck Shop and Prosper Yard sites so they can be redeveloped. The Pilot plans to conduct preliminary site investigations, including preliminary biological and ecological assessments. Site investigations will be followed by focused remedial investigations and feasibility studies for both sites. Remedial action plans will be developed.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Sponsoring meetings to explain the investigation and redevelopment processes and results to the Coquille Indian Tribe, residents, and other partners;
- Performing environmental site assessments of the Moore Mill Truck Shop property and Prosper Yard; and
- Developing remedial action plans outlining selected remedial alternatives.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.